

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 10061 01 OF 02 171646Z
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ACDE-00
INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07
NRC-07 OES-07 FEAE-00 DODE-00 ERDA-07 SS-15 SP-02
PM-04 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /121 W
-----171654Z 116432 /43

R 171632Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5207
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 10061

USSALTTWO ALSO FOR MISSION

E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PARM, UK
SUBJECT: CALLAGHAN STATEMENT ON CTB

THE FOLLOWING EXCHANGE ON UK PARTICIPATION IN CTB
NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE IN THE COMMONS JUNE 16:
"MR. CALLAGHAN: NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL IS A FIELD
IN WHICH WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE UNITED STATES
AND SOVIET UNION IN THE PAST. WE JOINED WITH THEM IN
THE NEGOTIATION OF THE 1963 PARTIAL TEST BAN TREATY
AND THE 1968 NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. FOR BOTH OF
THESE TREATIES, OUR THREE GOVERNMENTS ARE THE JOINT
DEPOSITARY POWERS. IT HAS LONG BEEN OUR POLICY TO
FAVOUR A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN, PROVIDED THAT IT CAN
BE ADEQUATELY VERIFIED AND ENSURES THAT PEACEFUL
NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS ARE NOT USED TO OBTAIN MILITARY
BENEFITS.

I THEREFORE WELCOMED PRESIDENT CARTER'S ANNOUNCE-
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PAGE 02 LONDON 10061 01 OF 02 171646Z

MENT EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT HE INTENDED TO MAKE RENEWED
EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY
WITH THE SOVIET UNION. I TOLD HIM THAT HE COULD RELY
ON OUR FULL SUPPORT.

THERE HAS FOLLOWED AN EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE
BETWEEN MYSELF AND PRESIDENT CARTER AND PRESIDENT
BREZHNEV, WITH THE RESULT THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM WILL

PARTICIPATE WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION IN DISCUSSIONS AIMED AT THE NEGOTIATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY. I HOPE THAT AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE AND PLACE FOR STARTING THESE TRIPARTITE DISCUSSIONS WILL BE MADE SHORTLY, AND THAT THEY WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH.

THE GOVERNMENT ATTACH THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO REDUCING THE DANGERS OF NUCLEAR WAR. WE JOIN THESE DISCUSSIONS IN THE BELIEF THAT THE UNITED STATES AND SOVIET GOVERNMENTS FULLY SHARE THESE OBJECTIVES, FOR WHICH THERE IS WORLDWIDE SUPPORT.

MRS. MARGARET THATCHER, LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (BARNET, FINCHLEY, C)--AS THE TESTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS A MATTER OF BALANCE BETWEEN THE ADVANCE OF THE WEAPONS OF ONE COUNTRY COMPARED WITH THOSE OF ANOTHER, WILL THE PRIME MINISTER ENSURE THAT THE OVERALL IMPORTANCE OF THE TALKS IS THAT THE SECURITY OF EUROPE IS INCREASED AND NOT DECREASED. HOW DOES MR. CALLAGHAN PROPOSE TO LINK NATO WITH THOSE TALKS, BECAUSE OUR SECURITY DEPENDS ON NATO?

MR. CALLAGHAN--WE HAVE INFORMED OUR ALLIES IN NATO THAT WE ARE ENTERING THESE TALKS, BUT WE HAVE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY AS A DEPOSITARY POWER AND THERE WILL BE DISCUSSIONS WITH NATO ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

ON THE TESTS THEMSELVES, WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THE SECURITY OF EUROPE BUT ALSO WITH THE MUCH WIDER PROBLEM OF THE SECURITY OF THE WORLD. IF WE CAN SECURE A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY AND IF, AT A LATER STAGE,

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PAGE 03 LONDON 10061 01 OF 02 171646Z

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PAGE 01 LONDON 10061 02 OF 02 171650Z

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INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07

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R 171632Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5208
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 10061

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FRANCE AND CHINA COULD JOIN, THEY ARE THE MAJOR POWERS
AT PRESENT AND THEY HAVE A PARTICULAR POINT OF VIEW.

MRS. MARGARET BAIN (EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE, SCOT NAT)--
ONE OF THE PRIORITY AREAS OF DISCUSSION SHOULD BE THE
REMOVAL OF POLARIS AND POSEIDON FROM THE CLYDE AND THE
RETURN OF THE CLYDE TO ORDINARY HUMAN USES. THIS AREA
IS A PRIORITY TARGET IN ANY STRIKE BY THE SOVIET UNION
OR THE UNITED STATES. IT IS A HEAVILY POPULATED
AREA.

MR. CALLAGHAN--I TAKE LEAVE TO DOUBT THE LAST PART.
I AM NOT SURE THAT IT IS A MAJOR PRIORITY TARGET.
EVERY CITY AND TOWN THROUGHOUT EUROPE AND THE SOVIET
UNION ARE PRIORITY TARGETS IN THAT SENSE. FOR THAT
REASON WE ARE TRYING TO GET A COMPREHENSIVE TREATY ON
THESE MATTERS. I DO NOT ACCEPT THE VIEW THAT YOU CAN
UNILATERALLY INCREASE THE SAFETY OF SCOTLAND OR THE
REST OF EUROPE.

MR. HUGH JENKINS (WANDSWORTH, PUTNEY. LAB)--THE
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PAGE 02 LONDON 10061 02 OF 02 171650Z

STATEMENT WILL BE WARMLY AND WIDELY WELCOMED. WHILE THE
TREATY IS SOUGHT, WILL THERE BE NO MOVE TOWARDS ANY NEW
GENERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

MR. CALLAGHAN--THERE IS NO MOVE BY THE GOVERNMENT T
A NEW GENERATION.

MR. NIGEL FORMAN (SUTTON, CARSHALLTON, C)--WHEN THE
GOVERNMENT TAKE PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS, WILL THEY PRESS
THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TO DO ALL THEY CAN TO DISCOURAGE
THE USE OF SO-CALLED PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS IN
THEIR COUNTRY AND ELSEWHERE BECAUSE IT HAS UNFORTUNATE
DEMONSTRATION EFFECTS ON OTHER COUNTRIES WHO MIGHT USE
IT AS AN ALIBI FOR CONDUCTING THEIR OWN NUCLEAR
DEVELOPMENT.

MR. CALLAGHAN--THE GOVERNMENT VIEW IS THAT SO FAR
IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH THE TECHNOLOGY OF
PEACEFUL EXPLOSIONS FROM DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER AREAS.
THERE IS, HOWEVER, A VIEW THAT IT IS POSSIBLE. IT WILL

BE FOR OUR SCIENTISTS AND NEGOTIATORS TO CONSIDER."

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